The St. Tammany Farmer

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Snakes Diagnosed Editorially.

Ever since Adam was a bridegroom, and a certain celebrated, but not beloved, snake made trouble in the family and caused him to lose his farm and gardens, snakes have been unpopular in Adam's family. If the snake had never been in the Garden of Eden zoo, probably we could be roaming around yet on a perpetual vacation, with nothing to do but eat fruit and pick flowers. We folks who have to work and dig around eight or ten hours a day can never quite forgive the snake for putting us out of the paradise palm garden, says the Baltimore Sun. It was worse than the civil war. Never since that little snake incident at Eden have we been rich enough to quit work. You can't say the snake is a beautiful animal. He looks like a long streak of devilment, with fangs in front and little spots and streaks of unrighteousness all the way down. He is as unsociable as a cross-eyed hermit, and slippery as a gumshoe politician. As Mr. Roosevelt would say, the snake is unmoral, a malefactor of great stealth, an unrighteous unregenerate, almost as depraved as a reactionary or a conservative. Being jealous and spiteful, it is no wonder that the reptile has so few close friends. His low, retreating forehead shows that he has no taste for music or the arts, and would as soon bite Elbert Hubbard or Paderewski as he would Joe Gans. He never shows true affection or constancy, and cannot be trusted with ladies and children.

Potential Wheat Acreage.

With the many means which are at hand to the future farmers of the United States to meet the ever-growing demand for the "staff of life," it is hard to imagine a real wheat famine for our population in the immediate future. He is a most unwise prophet who would attempt to estimate the potential wheat acreage of the United States 10, 20, or 50 years from now. While it is true that the most available and most productive wheat lands have already been tapped, the future acreage of desert-and-swamp lands that may be made productive through engineering skill, says Century, is an absolutely unknown factor. That many of these regions will sometime be extremely productive no one can doubt, and if high prices for wheat become persistent, an extensive wheat acreage may be developed in old agricultural regions that have abandoned wheat for more profitable forms of agriculture.

Rubber Plays a Part.

The increasing demand for rubber makes the Congo State a center of interest to the world. But no one wants rubber extorted by the lash and by mutilation. No one believes that any such system is necessary. It is a mistake to think that the African negroes are lazy, says the Philadelphia Inquirer. After their fashion they are energetic, but most of their labor is wasted in vain efforts. It seems reasonable that a mild and intelligent administration will produce much more rubber and will not only benefit the natives, but cheapen the article. The American concessions stand, and these are vast, but they will be under the supervision of the Belgian government and we shall have no more brutality by wholesale. The Belgians are an intelligent race, fully competent to solve this great problem.

The British house of lords amended the old-age pension bill, but when the commons rejected the amendments, the lords passed the bill in the form in which it was sent to them. The aged British poor over 70 years of age will soon receive pensions of varying amounts, according to their income. The sums are fixed by a sliding scale which forms a part of the bill. Now the statesmen will devote themselves to finding money to pay the pensions. It will require $30,000,000 a year to start with, and is likely to need from $50,000,000 to $100,000,000 within a decade.

The heaviest hitter in the American Baseball league has married the richest girl in Atlanta. She probably took him because the sporting editors have referred to him as "the prince of swatters."

A Chicago man plans to have all our machinery run by the force of gravitation. That will be all right if he can persuade gravitation to work both ways.

There is a town in New York which has been made famous by its millionaire fire department. In its ranks are plenty of brokers and bankers, so it may be that they are satisfied any time the town supply of water runs short they can get enough squeezed out of their stocks to answer.

Only a monomaniac, says a scientist, can think of one subject continuously for five minutes. Oh, say not so. Weren't you ever hungry for an hour before dinner time?

When a wild-eyed motorcyclist comes tearing along the street the average pedestrian is at a loss for a moment whether to offer up a silent invocation in his behalf or break out into loud, harsh and objurgatory language.

One of the scientists has written a long article entitled "Why We Cling to Life." After carefully consideration he appears to arrive at the opinion that it is because we don't like to die.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

To Be Submitted to the Electors at Election to Be Held Nov. 3, 1908

ACT NO. 28.

House Bill No. 30. By Mr. Butler.

AN ACT.

A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to Article 249 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana relative to the office of the State Superintendent of Public Education.

Section 1. Be it resolved, by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana two-thirds of all members elected to each House concurring. That Article 249, of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana be so amended as to read as follows:

Article 249. There shall be elected by the qualified electors of the State a Superintendent of Public Education, who shall hold his office for the term of four years, and until his successor is qualified. His duties shall be prescribed by law, and he shall receive an annual salary of five thousand dollars payable monthly on his warrant.

Section 2. Be it further resolved, etc., That this proposed amendment shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the State for adoption or rejection at the congressional election to be held in November nineteen hundred and eight, and that if adopted, the same shall take effect on the first day of December, 1908.

Section 3. Be it further resolved, etc., That on the official ballots to be used at said election, there shall be placed the words "For the proposed amendment to Article 249 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana," and the words "Against the proposed amendment to Article 249 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana," and each elector shall indicate, as provided in the general election laws of the State, which of the propositions "For" or "Against" he votes for.

H. G. DUPRE,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
P. M. LAMBREMONT,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.

Approved June 20th, 1908.

J. Y. SANDERS,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.

A true copy.
JOHN T. MICHEL,
Secretary of State.

ACT NO. 62.

Senate Bill No. 39. By Mr. Cordill.

A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, providing for the exemption from taxation, under prescribed conditions, of loans made upon mortgages of real estate and the notes evidencing such loans; and loans made by life insurance companies to their policy holders, upon the sole security of policies held by the borrower in the company making the loan, as well as all notes or written instruments evidencing such loans.

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, two-thirds of all the members elected to each House concurring therein: That the following amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, be submitted to the electors of the State in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution, and of the election laws of this State, at the next election for Representatives in Congress, to be holden in November, 1908, to wit:

In addition to the property now exempted from taxation by existing laws, there shall also be exempt from taxation loans made upon the security of mortgages granted upon real estate situated in this State, as well as the mortgages granted to secure the said loans, and the notes, bonds or other written instruments evidencing the said loans, whether in the hands of the mortagee, or his or their transferees; and all loans made by life insurance companies to their policyholders, upon the sole security of policies held by the borrower in the company making the loans, as well as all notes or other written instruments, evidencing such loans; provided, that in the case of loans upon policies of life insurance, as aforesaid, the rate of interest charged upon such loans does not exceed five per cent (5 per cent) per annum discount.

P. M. LAMBREMONT,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.

H. G. DUPRE,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Approved June 24, 1908.

J. Y. SANDERS,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.

A true copy.
JOHN T. MICHEL,
Secretary of State.

ACT NO. 116.

Senate Bill No. 116. By Mr. Voegtle.

AN ACT

To amend the provisions of Act No. 19 of 1906, so as to authorize the allowance to the purchasers of the New Public Improvement Bonds of the City of New Orleans of a commission or deduction not to exceed six per cent; so as to define the order or rank of payment of said bonds out of the taxes dedicated to that purpose; and to prohibit the further issue of bonds interfering or competing in order or rank with said bonds and the Public Improvement Bonds issued under Act No. 6 of the Extra Session of 1899; and to provide for the submission to the people of the State of Louisiana of a Constitutional Amendment, ratifying the modifications and changes herein provided to be made in said Act No. 19 of 1906 and the Constitutional Amendment ratifying said Act.

Whereas, due notice of this Act has been published in the City of New Orleans for more than thirty days prior to its introduction into the General Assembly, and due evidence thereof has been exhibited in the General Assembly, and

Whereas, owing to the increase in the rates of interest since the adoption of Act No. 19 of the Acts of 1906, the $8,000,000.00 of bonds of the City of New Orleans authorized to be issued by that Act cannot be sold as provided in said Act, and

Whereas, some misunderstanding has arisen as to the order of payment of the principal and interest of said bonds out of the surplus of the one per cent debt tax and the two mill special tax.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, That the Board of Liquidation of the City Debt, which is charged by Section 2 of Act No. 19 of the Acts of 1906, with the duty of selling $8,000,000 of New Public Improvement Bonds of the City of New Orleans, shall have power in selling the first four millions of said bonds to allow to the purchasers thereof a commission or deduction not to exceed six per cent., the amount of said commission or deduction to be a part of the bid of the purchasers for said bonds, and the bonds to be adjudicated to the best bidder in price, not however below par and accrued interest, coupled with the least commission; and provided that the second four millions of said bonds cannot be sold as above provided with allowance of the said commission or deduction except with the consent of the City Council expressed by an ordinance adopted by a vote of two-thirds of its members, and also with the consent of the Board of Liquidation of the city debt, expressed by a resolution of said Board.

Section 2. Be it further enacted, etc., That in order to make clear and indisputable the order or rank of payment out of the surplus of the one per cent. debt tax and out of the two mill special tax, of the principal and interest of the $8,000,000.00 of New Public Improvement Bonds of the City of New Orleans, authorized to be issued under said Act No. 19 of the Acts of 1906, it is hereby declared that the surplus of the one per cent. debt tax and the two mill special tax up to July 1st, 1942, are first dedicated to the payment of the $12,000,000.00 of Public Improvement Bonds of the City of New Orleans issued and sold under the provisions of Act No. 6 of the Extra Session of 1899, and that all cent. debt tax and of said two mill special tax since January 1st, 1907, after providing for the payment of all sums on said Public Improvement Bonds now required by law to be so paid, shall be dedicated to the payment of the principal and interest of the said New Public Improvement Bonds, provided nothing herein contained shall in any manner affect the dedication of the entire one per cent. debt tax after July 1st, 1942. First, to said Public Improvement Bonds issued under Act 6 of 1899, and Second, to said New Public Improvement Bonds issued under Act 19 of 1906, as now provided by existing laws and Constitutional Amendment.

Section 3. Be it further enacted, etc., That no bonds shall hereafter be issued by the City of New Orleans, payable out of said taxes, which shall interfere with this order or rank of payment, or which shall compete with these two series of bonds for payment out of said funds, provided that nothing herein shall be construed as affecting the use or distribution of any surplus of said taxes remaining after providing for the payment of the principal and interest of said New Public Improvement Bonds as provided in Section 6 of said Act No. 19 of the Acts of 1906.

Section 4. Be it further enacted, etc., That at the congressional election to be held in this State on Tuesday, the third day of November, 1908, the following amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana shall be submitted to the electors of the State, to-wit:

"The modification and changes sought to be affected in the provisions of Act No. 19 of the Acts of 1906, which Act was ratified by Constitutional Amendment, adopted November 6, 1906, by the provisions of Act No. 116 of the Acts of 1908, are hereby ratified and approved, and all provisions of the present Constitution of the State in conflict with the provisions of said Act of 1906, and with this amendment, are to that extent and for that purpose only repealed."

Section 5. Be it further enacted, and resolved, etc., That on the official ballots to be used at said election shall be placed the words: "For the additional amendment of the City of New Orleans Public Improvement Bond amendment," and the words:

"Against the additional amendment of the City of New Orleans Public Improvement Bond amendment."

And each elector shall indicate his vote on the proposed amendment as provided in the general election laws of the State.

P. M. LAMBREMONT.
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.

H. G. DUPRE.
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Approved July 2nd, 1908.

J. Y. SANDERS.
Governor of the State of Louisiana.

A true copy.
JOHN T. MICHEL,
Secretary of State.

ACT NO. 179.

House Bill No. 153. By Mr. Barrett.

AN ACT

To authorize the City of New Orleans to issue two million ($2,000,000) dollars of five (5) per cent. bonds, which shall be exempt from taxation; to provide for the sale thereof; to provide for the payment of the principal and interest of said bonds; to provide for the disposition of the proceeds thereof, through such Public Belt Railroad Commission as the City of New Orleans may have heretofore organized, or may hereafter organize, the members of which shall be appointed by the Mayor of the City of New Orleans, and the powers, duties and functions of which shall be prescribed by the City of New Orleans; to define the powers and duties of the City of New Orleans and the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans in relation thereto, and to submit to the people of the State of Louisiana an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana authorizing the issue of said bonds and ratifying the provisions of this Act.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, two-thirds of all the members elected to each House concurring, That, subject to the ratification of the people of the State of Louisiana, by an amendment to the Constitution of the State, hereinafter submitted to them, the City of New Orleans is hereby authorized and empowered to issue bonds not to exceed two million ($2,000,000.00) dollars in amount, to be dated January 1, 1909, bearing five (5) per cent. per annum interest, payable semi-annually, the principal of which shall be payable at any time between July 1, 1939, and July 1, 1959.

Said bonds shall be drawn payable to bearer, and shall be styled: "Public Belt Railroad Bonds of the City of New Orleans." They shall be of the denominations and be numbered as follows, to wit:

Five thousand (5,000) of one hundred ($100.00) dollars each, numbered from 1 to 5,000, both inclusive.

One thousand (1,000) of five hundred ($500.00) dollars each, numbered from 5001 to 6000, both inclusive.

One thousand (1,000) of one thousand ($1,000.00) dollars, each, numbered from 6001 to 7000, both inclusive.

They shall be payable in lawful money of the United States, with semi-annual interest coupons attached, due July 1 and January 1. They shall be signed by the Mayor of the City of New Orleans and countersigned by the Comptroller and the Treasurer of the City of New Orleans. They shall be exempt from all taxation, State, parish and municipal, and the tutors of minors and curators of interdicts shall be authorized to invest all funds in their hands in such bonds. They may be registered and released from registry under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the City of New Orleans, and no registered bond shall be negotiable. They shall be received on deposit with the State or its officers or any of its political subdivisions or municipalities in all cases where, by law, deposits of bonds are allowed or required to be made, as security with the State, or its officers, or with any of its political subdivisions or municipalities.

Section 2. Be it further enacted, etc., That as soon as constitutional authority for the issuance of said bonds shall have been obtained, the City of New Orleans shall be authorized to cause said bonds to be engraved and executed. The City of New Orleans is hereby authorized and empowered, on and after January 1, 1909, to sell said bonds, at such times and in such numbers and amounts, and upon such terms and conditions as the City of New Orleans may deem advisable, provided that no sale shall be made by said city, except upon sealed proposals to be submitted to said city after advertisement for the same shall be had for thirty (30) consecutive days in one or more daily newspaper or newspapers of the cities of New York and New Orleans respectively, and provided that no sale shall be made by said city at a price less than par and accrued interest, the city to have always the right to reject any and all bids. Coupons attached to said bonds, past due at the time of delivery, shall be detached and cancelled by said city before delivery of the bonds.

Section 3. Be it further enacted, etc., That the principal and interest of said bonds shall be paid by preference from the revenues of the Public Belt Railroad of the City of New Orleans, after deducting the expenses of maintenance and operation, and all Public Belt revenues collectible under existing laws or ordinances, or amendments thereto, and all future Public Belt Railroad revenues, after deducting the expenses of maintenance and operation, are hereby pledged to secure said bonds and interest. The interest on said bonds shall be evidenced by coupons attached thereto, payable semi-annually by the Treasurer of the City of New Orleans, on the first days of July and January, and the City of New Orleans shall appropriate on or before the first days of April and October, 1909, and annually thereafter, to provide for the payment of the semi-annual interest due July 1 and January 1 of each subsequent year, out of the revenues of the Public Belt Railroad of the City of New Orleans, after deducting the expenses of maintenance and operation, which appropriations shall be credited on the books of the Treasurer of the City of New Orleans, to a special account to be styled "Public Belt Railroad Bond Interest Account," amounts equal to the semi-annual interest on all bonds that may have been delivered. The Treasurer of the City of New Orleans is hereby empowered and directed, and it is made his duty, to pay any and all such coupons that may be due when presented by any holder thereof.

In the year 1939, and annually thereafter, the City of New Orleans, shall in addition to the amount of the semi-annual interest due on the first of July and January of each year appropriate, on or before the first day of April, out of the revenues of the Public Belt Railroad of the City of New Orleans, after deducting the expenses of maintenance and operation, which appropriations shall be credited on the books of the Treasurer of the City of New Orleans to a special account to be styled "Public Belt Railroad Bond Redemption Account," the sum of one hundred thousand ($100,00.00) dollars, and the said Treasurer is hereby empowered and directed, and it is made his duty to pay, on the first day of July of the year 1939, and annually thereafter, out of said bond redemption account, one hundred thousand ($100,000.00) dollars of said bonds, in the reverse order of their issue; and all bonds and coupons retired under this Act shall be by said Treasurer duly canceled and be pasted as vouchers in a book to be by said Treasurer kept for that purpose.

In case of failure on the part of the City of New Orleans to make said appropriations at the times herein fixed and to administer and operate said Public Belt Railroad of the City of New Orleans, and to collect the revenues therefrom to provide for the payment of interest due or to become due, and the redemption of bonds, as provided for in this Act, the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans is hereby authorized, empowered and directed, and it is made its duty to administer and operate said Public Belt Railroad, to impose such charges as it may fix and collect said revenues and levy and collect the special tax hereinafter provided for and to apply the same to the purposes of this Act, and to that extent and for that purpose only, and for such time as may be necessary to that end, said Board of Commissioners to exercise all the powers and is charged with all the duties vested under this Act in the City of New Orleans.

Section 4. Be it further enacted, etc., That in case there should be in any year a deficiency in the revenues aforesaid to pay the full interest upon all of said bonds outstanding, such deficiency of interest shall be funded into bonds of such denominations as may be necessary and convenient, bearing the same rate of interest as the original bonds, and having a term to run equal to the balance of the term of the original bonds, but subject to call at will by the City of New Orleans; and in case any such bonds are issued they shall be stamped across their face "Interest Funding Bonds issued subject to immediate call," and they shall be payable out of the special tax of two (2) mills per annum, which shall be levied on and after January 1, 1943, as hereinafter provided. Said interest funding bonds shall have all the guaranties and securities provided for the original bonds in this Act for their payment, principal and interest.

In case the revenues of the Public Belt Railroad of the City of New Orleans should not be sufficient to provide for the payment of the annual interest on, or for the redemption annually, on and after January 1, 1939, of any of said bonds, as hereinabove set forth, the redemption of said bonds shall be postponed until January 1, 1944, and the City of New Orleans shall levy upon all of the taxable property within the present territorial limits of said city a special tax of two (2) mills, beginning with and including the year 1943, the entire proceeds whereof shall be applied annually to the redemption of the bonds issued under this Act and all interest that may be then or thereafter due thereon, and all outstanding "interest funding bonds," until all of said bonds shall have been retired in principal and interest. If any surplus of said two (2) mills tax in the last year of its levy shall exist, such surplus shall be dedicated to works of public improvement to be designated by the City of New Orleans.

Section 5. Be it further enacted, etc., That the City of New Orleans shall be and it is hereby authorized and empowered to expend the proceeds of said bonds for the construction and equipment of a Public Belt Railroad System in and for the City of New Orleans, including tracks, sidings, switches, spurs, crossovers and all appurtenances and accessories thereto; the building of depots, roundhouses, warehouses, sheds, stations, signals and all other necessary structures incident to the construction and equipment of railroads, for the purchase of locomotives, switch engines, cars and other necessary rolling stock; for the payment of property purchased or expropriated for the purpose of laying tracks, sidings, switches, spurs, crossovers, etc., or for the erection of necessary structures and buildings incident to railroads; for the purchase of existing roadbeds, tracks, switches, sidings, crossovers, or for the expropriation of the same; for the purchase of barges and tugboats and other property incident to the operation of a barge system; and generally for the purchase and equipment of all property, movable and immovable, necessary and proper to construct and equip said public belt railroad system, and as an incident thereto, a barge system.

Section 6. Be it further enacted, etc., That there shall be and there is hereby irrevocably dedicated to the people of the City of New Orleans for perpetual and exclusive public use said Public Belt Railroad System, as the same has been heretofore, or may hereinafter be established by the City of New Orleans, the title and use to which said public belt railroad system shall be and shall forever be in the people of the City of New Orleans.

That all laws, servitudes, privileges and rights in favor of the State of Louisiana, the City of New Orleans and the people of the City of New Orleans, now existing in or on the lands or property on or contiguous to the Mississippi river shall continue to exist unimpaired until the full payment of the principal and interest of the bonds to be issued under this Act.

Section 7. Be it further enacted, etc., That the City of New Orleans shall construct, equip, maintain and operate said Public Belt Railroad System of the City of New Orleans through and by means of such board or commission, as may have been or may be organized by the City of New Orleans, the members of which shall be appointed by the Mayor of the City of New Orleans, with the consent of the Council, the powers, duties and functions of which shall be prescribed by the City of New Orleans. The City of New Orleans shall always have the power and authority to make such changes in the location of the tracks and roadbed of the Public Belt Railroad System as may by said city be deemed necessary or proper. The control, administration, management and supervision of the construction, maintenance, operation and development of the Public Belt Railroad of the City of New Orleans shall be exclusively vested and remain in such board or commission, which shall always be separate and distinct from that of any railroad entering the City of New Orleans, and no director, officer or employee of any State or interstate railroad shall ever be allowed to act as a member of said commission, or as an officer of the Public Belt Railroad, or be employed by said Public Belt Railroad, and no rights or privileges shall be granted to any railroad company to control, manage, use or operate the said Public Belt Railroad System, or any part thereof, and said Public Belt Railroad System shall be and remain the sole property of the people of the City of New Orleans at all times, and shall in no way or manner ever be hypothecated or alienated, provided, however, that the revenues of said Public Belt Railroad of the City of New Orleans, after the deduction of the expenses of maintenance and operation, shall be and remain pledged for the payment of the bonds in principal and interest, the issue of which is herein authorized; to such extent as may be necessary under this Act.

Section 8. Be it further enacted, etc., That all the provisions of this Act shall constitute a contract between the holder of the bonds issued thereunder, the State of Louisiana, the City of New Orleans and the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans.

Section 9. Be it further enacted, etc., That at the congressional election to be held in this State on the first Tuesday, after the first Monday in the month of November, 1908, the following amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana shall be submitted to the electors, to wit:

"The City of New Orleans shall be authorized and empowered to issue two million (2,000,000.00) dollars of bonds, to be known as Public Belt Railroad Bonds of the City of New Orleans for the purpose and under the provisions and conditions set forth in the Act of the Legislature adopted to that end, and for that purpose, at the regular session of the Louisiana General Assembly for the year 1908, which said Act is hereby ratified and approved; and all provisions of the Constitution of the State in conflict with the provisions of said Act and of this amendment, are to that extent and for that purpose only repealed."

Section 10. Be it further enacted, etc., That on the official ballots to be used at said election shall be placed the words, "For the Public Belt Railroad Bond Amendment," and the words: "Against the Public Belt Railroad Bond Amendment"; and each elector shall indicate his vote on the proposed amendment as provided by the general election laws of the State.

H. G. DUPRE,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
P. M. LAMBREMONT,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.

Approved July 3, 1908.

J. Y. SANDERS.
Governor of the State of Louisiana.

A true copy.
JOHN T. MICHEL.
Secretary of State.

ACT NO. 180.

House Bill No. 152. By Mr. Barrett.

AN ACT

To authorize the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans to issue three million, five hundred thousand ($3,500,00.00) of five (5) per cent bonds, which shall be exempt from taxation; to authorize the exchange of so many of said bonds as may be necessary to retire valid outstanding obligations of said board, and to provide for the sale of the remainder thereof; to provide for the payment of the principal and interest of said bonds and the disposition of the proceeds thereof; to define the powers and duties of the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans and the Treasurer of the State of Louisiana in relation thereto; to continue said board in existence until the payment of said bonds; and to submit to the people an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana authorizing the issue of said bonds and ratifying the provisions of this Act.

Whereas, the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans, created under the provisions of Act 70 of the General Assembly of the year 1896, as amended by Act No. 36 of the General Assembly of the year 1900, is vested with the administration of the public wharves and landings of the port and harbor of New Orleans, and charged with the duty of extending, improving and maintaining the same and the appurtenances thereto; and

Whereas, said Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans assumed the duties imposed on it by law, at the termination of the lease between the City of New Orleans and the Louisiana Construction & Improvement Company, on the 29th day of May, 1901; and

Whereas, said Board out of its revenues has, since said date, practically rebuilt the entire wharf system received from said Louisiana Construction & Improvement Company, built new wharves, erected steel sheds on the wharves and landings for the protection of merchandise in transit, constructed paved roadways and approaches thereto, provided suitable dredge and tugboats for dredging and fire protection purposes; has maintained sufficient depth of water and provided for the lighting and policing of the wharves, landings, sheds and appurtenances thereto; and

Whereas, on account of the growing commerce of the port and harbor of New Orleans it is now necessary that additional wharves be constructed and extensive enlargements and improvements of the system of wharves, landings, sheds and appurtenances be made so that the facilities for the handling of export and import cargoes in the port and harbor of New Orleans will be equal if not superior, to similar facilities at any South Atlantic or Gulf port; and

Whereas, funds cannot be made available for these purposes except by the issue of bonds; and

Whereas, the said Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans is assured that provision can safely be made from its revenues for the payment of the interest annually, and the payment of the principal at maturity, of three million five hundred thousand dollars ($3,500,000.00) of five per cent bonds; and

Whereas, legislation providing for the issue of said bonds and recommending the submission to the people of an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana authorizing the issuance of said bonds and ratifying the provisions of this Act, is recommended by the Ford Investigation Commission, created by Act No. 9 of the Extra Session of 1907; therefore:

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, two-thirds of all the members elected to each House concurring:

That, subject to the ratification of the people of the State of Louisiana, by the adoption of an amendment to the Constitution of the State, hereinafter submitted to them, the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans, created by Act No. 70 of the General Assembly of 1896, as amended by Act No. 36 of the General Assembly of the year 1900, is hereby authorized and empowered, and it shall be its duty, to issue bonds not to exceed three million five hundred thousand dollars ($3,500,000.00) in amount, dated January 1, 1909, bearing five per cent per annum interest, payable semi-annually, the principal of which shall be payable at any time between July 1, 1924, and July 1, 1959. Said bonds shall be drawn payable to bearer and shall be styled "Port Commission Bonds." They shall be of the denomination of one thousand dollars ($1,000.00) each, payable in lawful money of the United States, with semi-annual interest coupons attached, due July 1st and January 1st. They shall be signed by the President and countersigned by the Secretary of the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans. They shall be exempt from all taxation, State, parish and municipal, and the tutors of minors and curators of interdicts shall be authorized to invest the funds in their hands in such bonds. They may be registered and released from registry under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by said Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans, and no registered bond shall be negotiable. They shall be received on deposit with the State, or its officers, or any of its political subdivisions or municipalities, in all cases where, by law, deposits of bonds are required or allowed to be made as security, with the State, or its officers, or any of its political subdivisions of municipalities.

Section 2. Be it further enacted, etc., That as soon as the Constitutional authority for the issuance of said bonds shall have been obtained, it shall be the duty of the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans to cause said bonds to be engraved and executed. The Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans is hereby authorized and empowered on and after January 1, 1909, to exchange, at not more than par and accrued interest, so many of said bonds as may be necessary to retire outstanding obligations of said Board, coupons past due at the date of exchange to be detached and canceled by said Board before delivery of bonds; and said Board is hereby authorized and empowered to sell the remainder of said bonds, in whole or in part, in such manner, and upon such terms and conditions, as by said Board may be deemed advisable; provided, that no sale shall be made by said Board at a price which will net to the Board less than par and accrued interest. Coupons attached to said bonds, past due at the time of delivery, shall be detached and canceled by said Board before delivery of the bonds.

Section 3. Be it further enacted, etc., That the principal and interest of said bonds shall be paid by preference from the revenues of the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans, and all revenues collectible under the laws, as now existing, shall be and are hereby pledged to secure said bonds and interest. In no event shall the charges imposed by said Board, under the law now existing, be reduced to an amount less than necessary for the payment of the principal and interest of said bonds; and the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans, as presently organized and without diminuation of existing territorial jurisdiction, shall continue in legal existence until all the bonds issued in accordance with this Act shall have been paid in principal and interest; provided that the members of said Board shall be appointed by the Governor, subject to removal by the Governor, and the Governor shall have power to fill all vacancies.

The interest on said bonds shall be evidenced by coupons attached thereto, payable semi-annually, by the Treasurer of the State of Louisiana, on the first days of July and January, and said Board shall place on deposit, on or before April 1, 1909, and on or before the first of April of every subsequent year, with the Treasurer of the State of Louisiana, to the credit of a special account to be styled "Interest Account," an amount equal to the annual interest on all bonds that may have been delivered. Said Treasurer is hereby empowered and directed, and it is made his duty to pay any and all such coupons that may be due on the 1st of July, place on deposit, on or before April 1, with the Treasurer of the State of Louisiana, to the credit of a special account to be styled "Bond Redemption Account," a sum of one hundred thousand dollars ($100,000.00), and the said Treasurer is hereby empowered and directed, and it is made his duty, to pay, on the 1st of July, of the year 1924, and annually thereafter, out of said Bond Redemption Account, one hundred (100) of said bonds in the reverse order of their issue; and all bonds and coupons retired under this Act shall be by said Treasurer duly canceled and delivered to the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans, which shall receipt for same, and which shall retain and paste the same as vouchers, in a book to be by it kept for that purpose. It shall be the duty of said Treasurer to require said deposits to be made as aforesaid; and in case of failure on the part of said Board to make said deposits, or to impose, under the law as now existing, the charges for the use of said wharves, landings, sheds and appurtenances thereto, or to collect the revenues therefrom, in an amount sufficient to provide for the payment of interest due or to become due, and the redemption of bonds as provided in this Act, said Treasurer is hereby empowered and directed, and it is made his duty, to impose said charges and collect said revenues, and to apply the same to the purposes of this Act, and to that extent, and for that purpose only, and for such time as may be necessary to that end, the said Treasurer is hereby authorized to exercise all the powers and is charged with all the duties vested under existing law in the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans.

Section 4. Be it further enacted, etc., That all of the provisions of this Act shall constitute a contract between the holder of the bonds issued thereunder, the State of Louisiana, and the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans.

Section 5. Be it further enacted, etc., That the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans shall, and it is hereby authorized and empowered to expend the proceeds of said bonds for the extension of existing wharves, for building new wharves, for erecting sheds, for constructing roadways and other improvements; for the purchase of suitable dredges, barges and tugboats; for the payment of wharves or other property purchased or expropriated, and for the payment of obligations heretofore contracted and outstanding; provided that no private property shall be taken without just and adequate compensation previously paid.

On the thirty-first day of December of each year, the said board shall furnish a detailed account of the receipts and expenditures to the Governor of the State; which report shall be published once in the official journal of the City of New Orleans.

Section 6. Be it further enacted, etc., That at the Congressional election to be held in this State on the first Tuesday following the first Monday of November, 1908, the following amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana shall be submitted to the electors of the State, to wit: "The Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans shall have power, and it shall be its duty, to issue three million five hundred thousand dollars ($3,500,000.00) of bonds to be known as 'Port Commission Bonds,' for the purposes and under the provisions and conditions set forth in the Act of the Legislature adopted to that end and for that purpose at the regular session of General Assembly of 1908, which said Act is hereby ratified and approved; and all provisions of the present Constitution of the State in conflict with the provisions of this Act, and with this amendment are, to that extent and for that purpose only, repealed."

Section 7. Be it further enacted, etc., That on the official ballots to be used at said election shall be placed the words: "For the Port Commission Bond Amendment," and the words: "Against the Port Commission Bond Amendment," and each elector shall indicate his vote on the proposed amendment as provided by the general election laws of this State.

H. G. DUPRE.
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
P. M. LAMBREMONT.
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.

Approved July 3, 1908.

J. Y. SANDERS.
Governor of the State of Louisiana.

A true copy.
JOHN T. MICHEL.
Secretary of State.

ACT NO. 245.

Senate Bill No. 68. By Mr. Barrett.

A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana relative to ratifying and carrying into effect an Act of the Legislature regulating the care of neglected and delinquent children and for the trial of adults in certain cases, establishing a Juvenile Court in the Parish of Orleans, and providing for separate sessions, as Juvenile Courts, of the District Courts outside of said parish and making other provisions cognate thereto.

Section 1. Be it resolved, by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, two-thirds of all the members elected to each house concurring, That the following amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, be submitted to the electors of the State at the next general congressional election to be held on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November, 1908, to wit:

The Act adopted by the Legislature at the regular session begun and held on May 11, 1908, regulating the care, treatment and control of neglected and delinquent children, seventeen years of age and under, and for the trial of adults charged with any violation of the laws for protecting the physical, moral and mental well being of children or with desertion or failure to support wife or children; organizing the Juvenile Court in the Parish of Orleans, providing a judge and officers therefor; providing for separate sessions, as Juvenile Courts, of the District Court outside of said parish; defining the jurisdiction of said courts; and providing them with probation officers of either sex, for indeterminate sentences by said courts and for appeals therefrom, and making other provisions cognate thereto, is hereby ratified and approved, and all provisions of the present Constitution in conflict with the provisions of said Act and this amendment are to that extent and for that purpose only repealed.

Section 2. Be it further enacted, etc., That on the official ballots to be used at said election, shall be placed the words: "For the Juvenile Courts amendment," and the words: "Against the Juvenile Courts amendment;" and each elector shall indicate, as provided in the general election laws of the State whether he votes for or against said amendment.

P. M. LAMBREMONT.
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.

H. G. DUPRE.
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Approved July 8th, 1908.

J. Y. SANDERS.
Governor of the State of Louisiana.

A true copy.
JOHN T. MICHEL.
Secretary of State.

ACT NO. 260.

Senate Bill No. 140. By Mr. Barret.

A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to Articles 81 and 82 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, relative to fixing the salaries of the Auditor of Public Accounts, Treasurer and Secretary of State, and providing that all fees received by the Secretary of State, under existing law or laws which may hereafter be enacted, shall be covered into the State Treasury.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, two-thirds of all members elected to each House concurring, That, Articles 81 and 82 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana be amended as to read as follows:

Article 81. The Auditor of Public Accounts shall receive a salary of five thousand dollars per annum. The Treasurer shall receive a salary of four thousand dollars per annum. The Secretary of State shall receive a salary of five thousand dollars per annum. Each of the said officers shall be paid monthly, and no fees, or perquisites or other compensation, shall be allowed them; provided, that the fees now or which may hereafter be fixed by law to be charged by the Secretary of State, shall be collected and paid over by him monthly to the State Treasurer to be placed to the credit of the General Fund.

Article 82. Appropriations for the clerical and all other expenses of the officers named in the preceding article shall specify each item of appropriation, and for all purposes shall not exceed in any one year, for the State Treasurer the sum of thirty-six hundred dollars; and for all purposes for any one year for the Auditor of Public Accounts the sum of eight thousand dollars; and for all purposes for any one year for the Secretary of State, including the salary of the Assistant Secretary of State, and all expenses of the Insurance Department, the sum of ten thousand dollars.

Section 2. Be it further resolved, etc., That the foregoing amendments of the Constitution of the State shall be submitted to the electors for their approval or rejection, as required by Article 321 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana and general election laws of this State at the general State election to be held in this State on the 3rd day of November, 1908.

P. M. LAMBREMONT.
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.

H. G. DUPRE.
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Approved July 8, 1908.

J. Y. SANDERS,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.

A true copy.
JOHN T. MICHEL,
Secretary of State.

ACT NO. 269.

House Bill No. 130. By Mr. Richardson.

A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to Article 303 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, relative to pensions for Confederate Veterans as amended by Act No. 73 of the General Assembly of 1900, and Act No. 112 of the General Assembly of 1904.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, two-thirds of all members elected to each House concurring, That Article three hundred of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, as amended by Act number seventy-three of the General Assembly of 1900, and Act number one hundred and twelve of the General Assembly of 1904, be so amended as to read as follows:

Article 303. A pension not to exceed eight dollars ($8) per month shall be allowed to each Confederate soldier or sailor veteran who possesses all the following q